

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A hand-held electronic toy, comprising:  
a display; and  
a toolbar menu on said display, said toolbar menu enabling a selection from a plurality of interactive tools that are included on said toolbar menu, wherein an interactive tool enables interaction with an activity that is displayed on said hand-held electronic toy,  
wherein availability of one or more of said plurality of interactive tools on said toolbar menu is based upon an identity of an activity that is displayed on said hand-held electronic toy.
2. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 1, further comprising a memory for storing said activity displayed on said hand-held electronic toy.
3. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 2, wherein said memory comprises a removable read only memory cartridge.
4. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 1, further comprising a communication device for receiving data from a second source.

5. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 4, wherein said second source includes a read only memory cartridge.
6. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 4, wherein said second source includes an Internet site.
7. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 4, wherein said second source includes a second hand-held electronic toy.
8. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 1, further comprising a stylus that enables a user to interact with said display.
9. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 8, wherein said stylus allows the user to select said interactive tools and said activities displayed on said display.
10. A hand-held electronic toy, comprising:  
a display; and  
a toolbar menu on said display, said toolbar menu enabling a selection from a plurality of interactive tools that are included on said toolbar menu, wherein an interactive tool enables interaction with an activity that is displayed on said hand-held electronic toy,

wherein a menu of tool options that are generated upon selection of an interactive tool is based upon an identity of an activity that is displayed on said hand-held electronic toy.

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11. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 10, further comprising a memory for storing said activity displayed on said hand-held electronic toy.
  12. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 11, wherein said memory comprises a removable read only memory cartridge.
  13. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 10, further comprising a communication device for receiving data from a second source.
  14. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 13, wherein said second source includes a read only memory cartridge.
  15. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 13, wherein said second source includes an Internet site.
  16. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 13, wherein said second source includes a second hand-held electronic toy.

17. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 10, further comprising a stylus that enables a user to interact with said display.
18. The hand-held electronic toy of claim 17, wherein said stylus allows the user to select said interactive tools and said activities displayed on said display.
19. A method in a hand-held electronic toy, comprising:  
receiving a selection of one of a plurality of activities for display on the hand-held electronic toy; and  
upon selection of an interactive tool included within a toolbar menu on said hand-held electronic toy, determining an interactive tool characteristic based upon an identity of the selected activity.
20. The method of claim 19, wherein said determining comprises determining a state of availability for the interactive tool.
21. The method of claim 20, wherein said determining comprises determining contents of a second menu of tool options for said selected interactive tool.
22. A method in a hand-held electronic toy, comprising:  
retrieving an activity application from a memory for display on the hand-held electronic toy; and

determining a characteristic of an interactive tool included on a toolbar menu disposed on the hand-held electronic toy based upon an identity of the retrieved activity application.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein said determining comprises determining a state of availability for the interactive tool.
24. The method of claim 22, wherein said determining comprises determining contents of a second menu of tool options that is associated with the selected interactive tool.
25. The method of claim 22, wherein said retrieving comprises retrieving the activity application from a removable read only memory cartridge.
26. A method in a hand-held electronic toy, comprising:  
displaying a first selectable item on the hand-held electronic toy, said first selectable item being associated with an activity capable of being displayed on the hand-held electronic toy;  
displaying a second selectable item on the hand-held electronic toy, said second selectable item being associated with an interactive tool, said interactive tool having a characteristic in a first state; and

upon receipt of a selection of said first selectable item on the hand-held electronic toy, determining whether to modify a state of said characteristic of said interactive tool from said first state to a second state.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said characteristic is an availability of said interactive tool.
28. The method of claim 26, wherein said characteristic is a menu of contents of said interactive tool.